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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA FISH & BOAT COMMISSION
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
450 Robinson Lane
Bellefonte, PA 16823

August 14, 2000

Mr. Victor Janosik
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

*Received
8-18-00 by
V. Janosik, RPM*

Re: Westinghouse Electric - Sharon Plant Superfund Site feasibility of remedial alternatives

Dear Mr. Janosik:

The Fish and Boat Commission appreciated the opportunity to meet with you, Viacom Incorporated representatives, and representatives of other state and federal agencies on August 8. Thank you for hosting that meeting.

A fish consumption advisory for common carp and muskellunge due to PCB contamination presently exists in the Shenango River from the Shenango Lake Dam downstream to the river mouth. The former Westinghouse plant is approximately three miles below the upstream limit of the consumption advisory. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission is especially interested in the fate of PCB contaminated sediment in the Shenango River upstream from the Shenango Valley Water Company intake. We favor removal of sediment containing greater than 1 part per million total PCBs from the river in Area 14 and Area 15. If the mass of PCBs in sediment near the Westinghouse Electric-Sharon Plant was significantly reduced, our agency believes decreased PCB concentrations in fish tissue would result. It is probable that this benefit would not be available if PCBs remain at high concentrations in river sediment. If highly contaminated sediment was removed, elimination of a fish consumption advisory from a 3.2 mile reach of the Shenango River within the next fifteen to thirty years is a reasonable expectation. The consumption advisory would likely be eliminated from the Shenango Lake Dam downstream to the Shenango Valley Water Company intake dam.

We ask you to consider this benefit when weighing the feasibility of river sediment remedial alternatives. Thank you for your consideration of our agency's position. Please contact me at (814) 359-5116 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Hartle

Mark A. Hartle, Fisheries Biologist
Division of Environmental Services

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c: Kathy Patnode, USFWS
Chuck Tordella, PA DEP - NW Region
Gordon Taylor - Viacom, Inc.
Patrick O'Hara - Cummings/Riter Consultants, Inc.

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